

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Page 13, lines 8-15 of the specification is amended to read as follows:

Figure 6 illustrates an example of this linkage identification. A series of columns 60 are headed by certain exemplary domain elements, along with the individual attributes of the domain element thereunder. Further, common attributes contained within various domain elements are able to be identified, as well as linking technology components to the function they provide. For example, lines 62 illustrate that “architecture” is a common attribute link between domain elements “techarch”, “network”, “storage” and “servers”. Thus, this attribute plays a role in several domain elements and likely provides greater benefit (and therefore value) to an enterprise. As discussed above, the different IT domains encompass various IT infrastructure components such as hardware, software, middleware, personnel, job descriptions, management activities, facilities, etc., depending on the domain itself. Accordingly, as used herein, an “element” refers to an IT component included within a specific domain (e.g., a “high-speed internet connection” is an element (component) of the “network” domain of the IT infrastructure).

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) ~~A storage-medium computer program product,~~
comprising:

~~a machine-computer readable medium having computer readable program code embodied thereon and configured to control a computer to implement a method for determining-configuring an information technology (IT) infrastructure strategy for an organizational entity; and~~

~~instructions for causing a computer to implement a method,~~ the method further comprising:

~~configuring a two-dimensional strategy-matrix having a plurality of discrete IT profiles defined therein, said IT profiles indicative of a defined cost/benefit value of IT, said strategy-matrix further including a first axis corresponding to a degree of centralization of IT infrastructure and a second axis corresponding to a degree of consolidation of IT infrastructure;~~

~~for each of a plurality of infrastructure domains, locating a customer value proposition within said strategy-matrix, said customer value proposition comprising a user input indicative of value derived from the use of IT services, wherein the location of said customer value proposition within said strategy-matrix corresponds to a degree of centralization and consolidation to be applied to the IT infrastructure; and~~

~~using the locations of said customer value propositions for said plurality of infrastructure domains to determine, within said strategy-matrix, a best fit location therebetween; and~~

~~using said best fit location to determine the IT infrastructure strategy,~~
wherein said best fit location in said strategy-matrix corresponds to a degree of centralization and consolidation to be implemented for the IT infrastructure.

8. (currently amended) ~~The storage-medium computer program product of~~

claim 7, wherein said identifying a customer value proposition for the organizational entity further comprises determining a relationship profile for the organizational entity, said relationship profile further comprising one of:

a commodity relationship profile, said commodity relationship profile characterized primarily by cost control and economy of scale objectives;

a utility relationship profile, said utility relationship profile characterized by cost control and end-user satisfaction objectives;

a partner relationship profile, said partner relationship profile characterized by end-user satisfaction and localized control objectives; and

an enabler relationship profile, said enabler relationship profile characterized by end-user satisfaction and standardization objectives.

9. (currently amended) The ~~storage-medium-computer program product~~ of claim 7, wherein said ~~strategy-matrix~~ further comprises:

a first quadrant corresponding to a centralized, consolidated ~~strategy~~approach to implementing IT infrastructure;

a second quadrant corresponding to a centralized, de-consolidated ~~strategy~~approach to implementing IT infrastructure;

a third quadrant corresponding to a decentralized, consolidated ~~strategy~~approach to implementing IT infrastructure; and

a fourth quadrant corresponding to a decentralized, de-consolidated ~~strategy~~approach to implementing IT infrastructure.

10. (currently amended) The ~~storage-medium-computer program product~~ of claim 9, wherein:

a centralized ~~strategy~~approach to implementing IT infrastructure is characteristic of an increased emphasis on control and standardization of the IT infrastructure;

a decentralized ~~strategy~~approach to implementing IT infrastructure is

characteristic of a decreased emphasis on control and standardization of the IT infrastructure;

a consolidated ~~strategy approach to implementing IT infrastructure~~ is characteristic of an increased emphasis on economies of scale and physical co-location of IT infrastructure domain elements; and

a de-consolidated ~~strategy approach to implementing IT infrastructure~~ is characteristic of a decreased emphasis on economies of scale and physical co-location of IT infrastructure domain elements.

11. (currently amended) The ~~storage-medium-computer program product~~ of claim 10, further comprising:

identifying individual elements within said domains;

identifying costs associated with said individual domain elements;

identifying benefits associated with said individual domain elements; and

performing a cost/benefit analysis for said domain elements within said

domains;

wherein said value of said information technology services is determined by subtracting the sum total of said costs of each of said domain elements within each of said domains from the sum total of the benefits of each of said domain elements within each of said domains.

12. (currently amended) The ~~storage-medium-computer program product~~ of claim 11, wherein identifying benefits associated with said individual elements further comprises:

identifying attributes of said individual domain elements; and

determining common attributes among said individual domain elements, thereby linking said individual domain elements with a business function provided thereby.

13-18. (cancelled)